INSTRUMENT PREPARED BY VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD

ORDER RECORDED UNDER CODE OF VIRGINIA SECTION 45.1-361.26

VIRGINIA:		
	BEFORE THE VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BO	OARD
APPLICANTS:	Hurt McGuire Land Trust; )	
	Consolidation Coal Company; )	
	Daisy Burke.	
	•	DOCKET NO.
RELIEF SOUGHT:	Issuance of an Amended Supplemental )	98-0324-0628-01
	Order Amending Prior Orders Affecting )	
	Drilling Unit X-36 Located in	
	Buchanan County, VA	
	(herein "Subject Drilling Unit" to Provide: )	
	(1) Calculation of Funds Unit Operator )	
	Deposited into the Escrow Account for )	
	Subject Drilling Unit by Tract Subaccounts; )	•
	(2) to Applicants a Royalty Accounting; and)	
	(3) Disbursement to Applicants in )	
	accordance with their ownership interests )	
	Those Funds Deposited by the Unit Operator)	

into Subject Drilling Unit's Escrow Subaccount for VGOB Tracts 1A and 1B.

#### REPORT OF THE BOARD

#### **FINDINGS AND ORDER**

- 1. <u>Hearing Date and Place</u>: This matter came on for hearing before the Virginia Gas and Oil Board (herein "Board") at 9:00 a.m. on July 17, 2007 at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center on the campus of Virginia Highlands Community College, Abingdon, VA.
- 2. <u>Appearances</u>: Mark Swartz, Esq. appeared for the Unit Operator; and Sharon M.B. Pigeon, Assistant Attorney General, was present to advise the Board.
- 3. **Jurisdiction and Notice:** Pursuant to Va. Code §§ 45.1-361.1 et seq., and in particular Va. Code §§ 45.1-361.21 and 45.1-361.22, the Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the establishment and maintenance of an escrow account, with tract subaccounts, for each of the coalbed methane gas drilling units established by the Board through its field rules that are subject to a Board pooling order. Further, the Unit Operator is required to deposit, as applicable, those funds specified in Va. Code § 45.1-361.21.D., 45.1-361.22.A.2, 45.1-361.22.A.3 and 45.1-361.22.A.4 into the applicable escrow tract subaccounts. The Board finds that: (1) while it does not have jurisdiction to resolve conflicting claims to the ownership of the Coalbed Methane Gas produced by the Unit Operator from wells located on Subject Drilling Unit, and (2) while it does not have jurisdiction to interpret agreements by and between the Gas owners/claimants and/or the Unit Operators or to abridge or contravene the provisions of such agreements, (3) pursuant to Va. Code § 45.1-361.22.A.5, the Board does have jurisdiction and authority to disburse funds from the Escrow Account provided the Board has been provided with a final decision of a court of competent jurisdiction adjudicating the ownership of coalbed methane gas as between the conflicting claimants or an agreement among all claimants owning conflicting estates in the tract in question or any undivided interest therein.

#### 4. **Prior Proceedings**:

- 4.1. On May 26, 1998, the Board executed its order pooling interests in the Subject Drilling Unit for the production of occluded natural gas produced from coalbeds and rock strata associated therewith (herein "Gas") in accordance with the provisions of Va. Code §§ 45.1-361.21 and 45.1-361.22 (herein "Pooling Order"). The Pooling Order was filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Buchanan County on June 5, 1998 in Deed Book 477 at Page 87. On August 28, 1998, the Board executed its Supplemental Order Regarding Elections which was filed with the Clerk on September 2, 1998 in Deed Book 481 at page 175 (hereafter all orders are collectively referred to as the "Pooling Orders"). On June 17, 2003, The Board executed an order without docket number amending all prior pooling orders that named Buchanan Production Company, Pocahontas Gas Partnership, Island Creek Coal Company or Consol Energy, Inc. as unit operator, and designated CNX Gas Company, LLC as operator. In Buchanan County, the amendment order was recorded with the Buchanan County Clerk in Deed Book 585, Page 65.
- 4.2 To the extent claims to the Gas were in conflict, pursuant to Va. Code § 45.1-361-22 payments attributable to said conflicting claims were ordered deposited by the Unit Operator into the escrow account established by the Pooling Order (herein "Escrow Account"). According to the Pooling Orders the coalbed methane claims of oil and gas fee owner Consolidation Coal Company and coal fee owner Hurt McGuire Land Trust in a 7.53-acre tract known as VGOB Tract 1A, and the coalbed methane claims of oil and gas fee owner Daisy Burke and coal fee owner Hurt McGuire Land Trust in a 3.03-acre tract known as VGOB Tract 1B in the Subject Drilling Unit were in conflict and became subject to the escrow requirements of the Pooling Order.
- 4.3 The Unit Operator's Miscellaneous Petition regarding VGOB Tracts 1A and 1B, a copy of which is attached to and made a part hereof, and testimony states under oath that Consolidation Coal Company and Hurt McGuire Land Trust and Daisy Burke and Hurt McGuire Land Trust have entered into royalty split agreements and that by the terms of the agreements escrow regarding the conflicting claims of said parties is no longer required. By sworn testimony before the Board, the Unit Operator testified that VGOB Tract 1A and the interests of Consolidation Coal Company and Hurt McGuire Land Trust, and VGOB Tract 1B and the interests of Daisy Burke and Hurt McGuire Land Trust are subject to the split agreement.
- 4.4 The Unit Operator gave notice to Consolidation Coal Company, Daisy Burke and Hurt McGuire Land Trust that the Board would take the application referred to in Paragraph 4.3 above under consideration and consider whether to: (1) amend the Pooling Order to provide for the disbursement of funds on deposit in the Escrow Account attributable to Tract 1A and the interests of Consolidation Coal Company and Hurt McGuire Land Trust, and Tract 1B and the interests of Daisy Burke and Hurt McGuire Land Trust; (2) delete the requirement that the Unit Operator place future royalties attributable to Tract 1A and the interests of Consolidation Coal Company and Hurt McGuire Land Trust and Tract 1B and the interests of Daisy Burke and Hurt McGuire Land Trust in the Escrow Account, and (3) continue the escrow account under this docket number because parties other than those seeking disbursement under this order are subject to escrow.
- 4.5 The Unit Operator filed the attached accounting for Subject Drilling Unit's Escrow Account with the Board ("Accounting").

#### 5. Findings:

5.1. Va. Code 45.1-361.22.5 provides:

The Board shall order payment of principal and accrued interests, less escrow account fees, from the escrow account to conflicting claimants within thirty days of receipt of notification of (i) a final decision of a court of competent jurisdiction adjudicating the ownership of coalbed methane gas as between them or (ii) an agreement among all claimants owning conflicting estates in the tract in question or any undivided interest therein. The amount to be paid to the

conflicting claimants shall be determined based on the percentage of ownership interest of the conflicting claimants as shown in the operator's supplemental filing made part of the pooling order that established the escrow account, the operator's records of deposits attributable to those tracts for which funds are being requested, and the records of the escrow account for the coalbed methane gas drilling unit. The interests of any cotenants who have not entered into an agreement shall remain in the escrow account.

#### 5.2 Applicant has certified and represented to the Board that:

- (1) Consolidation Coal Company is the owner of 100% of oil and gas estate underlying VGOB Tract 1A of the Subject Drilling Unit;
- (2) Daisy Burke is the owner of 100% of oil and gas estate underlying VGOB Tract 1B of the Subject Drilling Unit;
- (3) Hurt McGuire Land Trust is the owner of 100% of coal estate underlying VGOB Tracts 1A and 1B of the Subject Drilling Unit;
- (4) Consolidation Coal Company and Hurt McGuire Land Trust and Daisy Burke and Hurt McGuire Land Trust have entered into royalty split agreements specifying that escrowed funds are to be divided with 50% going to the gas owner and 50% going to the coal owner, and also specifying that future royalties be paid directly to the owners according to the split agreement.
- (5) Net interests attributable and to be disbursed to Applicants are shown in Table 1, Below.

•	TABLE 1	
Owners	Tract #	% Interest in 98-0324-0628 sub-account
Consolidation Coal Company – 50% Attn. Anita Duty 2481 John Nash Blvd. Bluefield, WV 24701	1A	10.9831%
Hurt McGuire Land Trust – 50% C/O Charles Green P. O. Box 1067 Bluefield, VA 24605	1A	10.9831%
Daisy Burke – 50% Box 354 Raven, VA 24639	1B	4.4195%
Hurt McGuire Land Trust – 50% C/O Charles Green P. O. Box 1067 Bluefield, VA 24605	1B	4.4%

#### 6. Relief Granted:

For the reasons set forth in Paragraph 4 and 5 above, and based upon the Accounting, the Escrow Agent is ordered to, within 10 days of receipt of this executed order, disburse funds attributable to VGOB Tract 1A and the interests of Consolidation Coal Company and Hurt McGuire Land Trust and VGOB Tract 1B and the interests of Daisy Burke and Hurt McGuire Land Trust according to percentages shown in Table 1, above, and mail each recipients payment to the address shown in Table I, above.

Exhibit E to the Pooling Orders, showing owners subject to escrow, is deleted in toto and replaced with the Exhibit E attached to this order. Further, the Supplemental Order filed in this cause is hereby modified to delete the requirement that payments attributable to the conflicting coalbed methane gas ownership interests of Consolidation Coal Company and Hurt McGuire Land Trust in VGOB Tract 1A and the conflicting coalbed methane gas ownership interests of Daisy Burke and Hurt McGuire Land Trust in VGOB Tract 1B be deposited by the Unit Operator into the Escrow Account, and, because there are other owners subject to escrow under the Supplemental Order, the Escrow Agent is directed

to continue the Escrow Account for Subject Drilling Unit. To the extent not specifically granted herein, any other or further relief is denied.

# 7. **Conclusion**:

Therefore, the requested relief and all terms and provisions set forth above in Paragraph 6 above be and hereby are granted and IT IS SO ORDERED.

# 8. Appeals:

Appeals of this Order are governed by the provisions of Va. Code § 45.1-361.9 which provides that any order or decision of the Board may be appealed to the appropriate circuit court and that whenever a coal owner, coal operator, gas owner, gas operator, or operator of a gas storage field certificated by the State Corporation Commission is a party in such action, the court shall hear such appeal de novo.

	State Corporation Commission is a party in such action, the court shall hear such appeal de novo.
9.	Effective Date: This Order shall be effective on the date of its execution.
and	DONE AND EXECUTED this day of
	DONE AND PERFORMED this 8 day of 2007, by an Order of this Board.
	B. R. Wilson Principal Executive to the Staff Virginia Gas and Oil Board
and that	MMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  UNTY OF WISE  Acknowledged on this   day of   day of   Acknowledged on this   Room the Commonwealth of Virginia, appeared Benny R. Wampler, being duly sworn did depose and say the is Chairman of the Virginia Gas and Oil Board, that he executed the same and was authorized to do
so.	Susan G. Garrett 194394 Notary Public
Му	Commission expires: 93009
in a	MMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  UNTY OF WASHINGTON  Acknowledged on this day of long the Commonwealth of Virginia, appeared B. R. Wilson, being duly sworn did depose and say the is Principal Executive to the Staff of the Virginia Gas and Oil Board, that he executed the same and sauthorized to do so.
	Diane J. Davis 124394
Mx	Commission expires: (2.12.2)

# **Exhibit A**

# Tract-by-Tract Escrow Calculation Account Balances as of 5/30/07

Unit X-36 VGOB 98-0324-0628-01 Acres Escrowed: 34.28

Owners	Tract#	Acres	Total Tract Percent of Escrow	Split	Owners' Percent of Escrow	Amount Due Owners \$74,719.30
Hurt McGuire Land Trust - Coal				50%	10.9831%	\$8,206.48
CCC - O&G	1a	7.53	21.9662%	50%	10.9831%	\$8,206.48
			The state of the s			
Hurt McGuire Land Trust - Coal			ĺ	50%	4.4195%	\$3,302.21
Daisy Burke - O&G	1b	3.03	8.8390%	50%	4.4195%	\$3,302.21
					14.3086%	\$10,691.31
	1c	9.81	28.6173%		14.3086%	\$10,691.31
					10.00	
					18.4364%	\$13,775.55
	1d	12.64	36.8728%		18.4364%	\$13,775.55
THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF						
					1.8524%	\$1,384.09
	1e	1.27	3.7048%		1.8524%	\$1,384.09

Information presented here is for reference use only, CNX is not responsible for determinations made using the data represented here.

This information is for estimation purposes only.

#### BEFORE THE VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD

PETITIONER: CNX Gas Company LLC

DIVISION OF GAS AND OIL

**DOCKET NO: VGOB 98-0324-0628-01** 

**RELIEF SOUGHT: (1) DISBURSEMENT FROM** ESCROW REGARDING TRACT(S) 1A and 1B (2) AND AUTHORIZATION FOR DIRECT

**HEARING DATE: June 19, 2007** 

PAYMENT OF ROYALTIES

**DRILLING UNIT: X-36** 

**BUCHANAN COUNTY, VIRGINIA** 

#### **MISCELLANEOUS PETITION**

- Petitioner and its counsel: Petitioner is CNX Gas Company LLC, 2481 John Nash Blvd., Bluefield, West Virginia 24701, 304/323-6500. Petitioner's counsel is Mark A. Swartz, SWARTZ LAW OFFICES, PLLC, P.O. Box 517, Abingdon, VA 24212.
- Relief sought: (1) the disbursement of escrowed funds heretofore deposited with the Board's Escrow Agent(s) attributable to Tract(s) 1A and 1B as depicted upon the annexed Exhibit A; and (2) authorization to begin paying royalties directly to the parties to the royalty split between Hurt McGuire Land Trust and Consolidation Coal Company, Hurt McGuire Land Trust and Daisy Burke.
- 3. Legal Authority: Va. Code Ann. § 45.1-361.1 et seq., 4 VAC 25-160-140., and relevant Virginia Gas and Oil Board Orders ("Board") heretofore promulgated pursuant to law.
  - 4. Type of well(s): Coalbed methane.
- Factual basis for relief requested: Hurt McGuire Land Trust and Consolidation Coal Company; Hurt McGuire Land Trust and Daisy Burke, have entered into a royalty split agreement. Said royalty split agreement allows the Applicant and Designated Operator to pay royalties directly to the persons identified in Exhibit EE annexed hereto and Exhibit A, further, specifies how said royalties are to be divided and paid.
- Attestation: The foregoing Petition to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief is true and 6. correct.

CNX GAS COMPANY LLC

BY IT'S PROFESSIONAL MANAGER CNX GAS COMPANY LLC, PETITIONER

Leslie K. Arrington

Manager - Environmental Permitting

CNX Gas Company LLC 2481 John Nash Blvd.

Bluefield, West Virginia 24701

304/323-6500



# Exhibit E

# Unit X-36

# Docket #VGOB-98-0324-0628 List of Conflicting Owners/Claimants that require escrow

			Net Acres in Unit	Interest in Unit	Percent of Escrow
Tract #1C -	9.81 a	acres			
	COAL	FEE OWNERSHIP			
	(1)	Hurt McGuire Land Trust c/o Charles Green P.O. Box 1067 Bluefield, VA 24605	9.81 acres	12.2625%	28.6173%
	OIL 8	GAS FEE OWNERSHIP			
	(1)	Elmer Pruitt Rt. 1, Box 203 Raven, VA 24639	9.81 acres	12.2625%	28.6173%
Tract #1D -	12.64	<u>acres</u>			
	COAL	FEE OWNERSHIP			
	(1)	Hurt McGuire Land Trust c/o Charles Green P.O. Box 1067 Bluefield, VA 24605	12.64 acres	15.8000%	36.8728%
	OIL 8	GAS FEE OWNERSHIP			
	(1)	Rosella Pruitt Rt. 1, Box 203 Raven, VA 24639	12.64 acres	15.8000%	36.8728%
Tract #1E -	1.27 a	cres			
	COAL	FEE OWNERSHIP			
	(1)	Hurt McGuire Land Trust c/o Charles Green P.O. Box 1067 Bluefield, VA 24605	1.27 acres	1.5875%	3.7048%
	OIL 8	GAS FEE OWNERSHIP			
	(1)	Ord Wade Heirs	1.27 acres	1.5875%	3.7048%
	(a)	Curtis E. Wade Rt. 1 Box 200 Raven, VA 24639	0.18 acres 1/7 of 1.27 acres	0.2268%	0.5293%
	(b)	Madge Patricia Dillon 1941 Lisbon Road Chesapeake, VA 23321	0.18 acres 1/7 of 1.27 acres	0.2268%	0.5293%
	(c)	Anna L. Bohon P.O. Box 278 Oakwood, VA 24631	0.18 acres 1/7 of 1.27 acres	0.2268%	0.5293%

# Exhibit E Unit X-36

# Docket #VGOB-98-0324-0628

# List of Conflicting Owners/Claimants that require escrow

**************************************		Net Acres in Unit	Interest in Unit	Percent of Escrow
	(d) Phyllis Jean Estep 402 Gentry Drive Gordonsville, VA 22942	0.18 acres 1/7 of 1.27 acres	0.2268%	0.5293%
	(e) Dorothy E. Lowe P.O. Box 436 Cedar Bluff, VA 24609	0.18 acres 1/7 of 1.27 acres	0.2268%	0.5293%
	(f) Ruth Stump P.O. Box 36 Faith Hill. NC 28041	0.36 acres 2/7 of 1.27 acres	0.4536%	1.0585%

# Exhibit EE

# Unit X-36

# Docket #VGOB-98-0324-0628 List of Conflicting Owners/Claimants with Royalty Split Agreements

	Net Acres in Unit	Interest in Unit	Percent of Escrow
Tract #1A - 7.53 acres			
COAL FEE OWNERSHIP			
(1) Hurt McGuire Land Trust c/o Charles Green P.O. Box 1067 Bluefield, VA 24605	7.53 acres	9.4125%	21.9662%
OIL & GAS FEE OWNERSHIP			
(1) Consolidation Coal Company Attn: Anita Duty 2481 John Nash Blvd. Bluefield, WV 24701	7.53 acres	9.4125%	21.9662%
<u>Tract #1B - 3.03 acres</u>			
COAL FEE OWNERSHIP			
(1) Hurt McGuire Land Trust c/o Charles Green P.O. Box 1067 Bluefield, VA 24605	3.03 acres	3.7875%	8.8390%
OIL & GAS FEE OWNERSHIP			
(1) Daisy Burke Box 354 Raven, VA 24639	3.03 acres	3.7875%	8.8390%

VIRGINIA:	In the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of I	Buchanan County. The fore	egoing instrument was this day presented in the office ord this day of
aforesaid and is,	together with the certificate of ackowledgemen	t annexed, admitted to reco	ord this Aday of Uctoner
20 <u>07</u> . Insti	rument No. 070004021		
Returned to:	rument No. 070004029 DMME	TESTE:	ESTE: Beverly S. Tiller, Clerk  Clerk